

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-12. (cancelled)

13. (new) A security element for objects such as securities, banknotes, checks, passports and other similar documents,

wherein said security element comprises a tactile structure on at least a first surface of said object, said tactile structure comprising a succession of lines and being characteristically recognizable by feel along a specific direction over the tactile structure.

14. (new) The security element as claimed in claim 13, wherein the lines have an asymmetrical relief profile.

15. (new) The security element as claimed in claim 13, wherein the lines have different orientations.

16. (new) The security element as claimed in claim 13, wherein said tactile structure comprises at least two neighboring tactile zones each having a distinct directional palpability.

17. (new) The security element as claimed in claim 13, wherein said tactile structure is made by deformation of the object.

18. (new) The security element as claimed in claim 13, wherein said tactile structure is made by an intaglio process.

19. (new) A security element for objects such as securities, banknotes, checks, passports and other similar documents,

wherein said security element comprises a tactile structure on at least a first surface of said object, said tactile structure comprising a succession of shapes having an asymmetrical relief profile and being characteristically recognizable by feel along a specific direction over the tactile structure.

20. (new) The security element as claimed in claim 19, wherein said tactile structure comprises at least two neighboring tactile zones each having a distinct directional palpability.

21. (new) The security element as claimed in claim 19, wherein said tactile structure is made by deformation of the object.

22. (new) The security element as claimed in claim 19, wherein said tactile structure is made by an intaglio process.

23. (new) A security element for objects such as securities, banknotes, checks, passports and other similar documents,

wherein said security element comprises a tactile structure which is characteristically recognizable by feel along a specific direction over the tactile structure, said tactile structure comprising first and second tactile zones placed next to each other respectively on a recto side and a verso side of the object.

24. (new) The security element as claimed in claim 23, wherein said tactile structure comprises a succession of tactile zones which are alternately disposed on the recto and verso side of the object.

25. (new) The security element as claimed in claim 23, wherein said tactile structure is made by deformation of the object.

26. (new) The security element as claimed in claim 23, wherein said tactile structure is made by an intaglio process.

27. (new) A combined security element comprising at least a security element according to claim 13 and a security element according to claim 19.

28. (new) A document, such as a banknote, a check or a passport, comprising at least one security element as claimed in claim 13.

29. (new) A document, such as a banknote, a check or a passport, comprising at least one security element as claimed in claim 19.

30. (new) A document, such as a banknote, a check or a passport, comprising at least one security element as claimed in claim 23.